



BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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March 11, 2000

"I have not yet begun to fight!"



FUTURE BRINGS MORE REFORM FOR BAH

By Associated Press

The Office of the Secretary of Defense has determined that all areas where Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) decreased on January 1, 2000 would be paid at the higher December 31, 1999 rate. The increase will be effective March 1, 2000 and would primarily affect members who transfer to an area where BAH decreased on January 1, 2000. DFAS-DE will identify and correct all BAH entitlements for members who transferred to

an area where the BAH decreased January 1, 2000. No field input is required. This action will reflect in the March 31, 2000 payday.

For the period January 1, 2000 to February 29, 2000, legislation must be adopted before the BAH entitlement can be paid retroactively at the higher rate. If needed legislation is approved, DFAS-CL will advise all commands when any retroactive amounts will be paid.

APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

By K. L. Fisher, RADM, USNR

April is recognized as Child Abuse Prevention month. This year's national theme, "Teaming up to keep kids safe at home," captures the spirit of community teamwork that is essential in the prevention of child abuse and neglect. All Americans need to unite in the protection of our children.

Child abuse and neglect includes physical injury, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and deprivation of necessities. In 1998, there were over three million reports of child abuse and neglect to Child Protective Service (CPS) agencies in the United States. Of these reports, more than one million were substantiated with confirmation of maltreatment. In addition, approximately three children died daily in the United States from abuse and neglect in 1997.

A collaborative community

response is the most effective approach in the crusade against family violence. The Navy has made great strides in this effort by making victim safety the primary focus, holding offenders accountable, providing appropriate rehabilitation and education services, and ensuring community responders receive mandated training. Commands need to take an active role in both treatment and prevention of child abuse and neglect.

Preventing family violence takes a cooperative community effort and a clear message that such behavior is unacceptable. We need to work as a team toward our goal that every child will be free from abuse and neglect, safely nurtured by a loving family, supported by a caring community and safe at home.

C A M P A I G N 2000

MCCAIN READY TO QUIT CAMPAIGN

By Alison Mitchell

After a day huddled at his vacation cabin with family and senior aides, Sen. John McCain appeared ready to end his maverick candidacy, canceling several days worth of appearances in Colorado and Illinois and scheduling what his aides called "a major announcement" for Thursday.

BRADLEY TO DECLARE WITHDRAWAL

By Associated Press

Bill Bradley is readying an endorsement of his old foe Vice President Al Gore as he prepares to exit the presidential race Thursday. Advisers to Bradley say the former New Jersey senator will announce his withdrawal and throw his support to the vice president.

The advisers say the 56-year-old Bradley plans to stay active in public life and is not expected to rule out another presidential run. They also say he has no interest in the vice-presidential spot on the Democratic ticket.

PRESIDENTIAL RACE HEATS UP

By Richard L. Berke

Strategists for Vice President Al Gore and Gov. George W. Bush said that there would be no let-up from the primary season. Both campaigns recalled how Bob Dole in 1996 and Michael Dukakis in 1988 lay dormant in the summer before the general election, allowing their rivals to gain the upper hand through television or oratorical barrages.

The competitiveness of the race seems to be driving each candidate to be engaged earlier and more forcefully than past campaigns. Polls show Mr. Gore and Bush running neck and neck.

Christopher Lehane, a spokesman for Mr. Gore, said, "Strap on your seat belt. The roller coaster ride has just begun. If people think the pace has been intense up to this point, they haven't seen anything yet."

SATURDAY'S SITE TV SCHEDULE

CHANNEL 2

1030 DREW CAREY
1100 THE MIGHTY
1630 7TH HEAVEN
1730 JEOPARDY
1800 MOTOWN LIVES
1900 SOUL TRAIN
2000 THE FUGITIVE
2200 GREAT EXPECTATIONS

CHANNEL 6

1030 BOY MEETS WORLD
1100 SIX DAYS, SEVEN NIGHTS
1630 OUT OF TOWNERS
1800 RAGE: CARRIE 2
1945 THE MUMMY
2200 DARK CITY

TV SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO
OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS

BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

Capt. Douglas W. Keith, Commanding Officer

Lt. Cmdr. Laurie Rye, Public Affairs Officer

JOC(SW/AW) Stephen K. Robinson, Asst. Public Affairs Officer

J01(SW) Robert W. Gannard, Editor

J03 Laura C. Wiggins, Staff Writer

L11 Jimmie Claspell, Print Shop

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N A T I O N A L / I N T E R N A T I O N A L N E W S

CHINA INCREASES SPY PRESENCE

By Bill Gertz, Washington Times

China's spy services are stepping up military spying against the United States while using Chinese students as intelligence agents and "political influence" programs to manipulate U.S. policy, a joint CIA and FBI report says.

"Chinese attempts to obtain U.S. military and military-related technology ... have increased since the early 1990s," the counterintelligence report stated.

"Beijing continues to view the United States as one of its major targets for political collection," according to the report sent to Congress in January but released yesterday. A copy of the five-page unclassified report was obtained by The Washington Times.

Chinese spying "focuses on the foreign policies and intentions of the United States as well as information on U.S. leaders and sensitive multilateral negotiations," the report said.

MORE WORDS OF THANKS FOR DILI

By Rear Adm. Highfill

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the superb operational performance and professionalism demonstrated by the crew of the Bonhomme Richard Amphibious Ready Group in support of peace keeping operations in East Timor.

Congratulations to all Marines and Sailors for your outstanding performance supporting East Timor operations. Your participation was noteworthy and quite impressive. Take pride in your accomplishments, you have performed well.

Congratulations on a job very well done!

SAILOR JAILED IN SASEBO, JAPAN *USA Today*

A U.S. Sailor stationed in Sasebo, in southern Japan, was sentenced to two years in prison for beating and sexually assaulting a woman last year. Seaman Recruit Robert Corona, 21, was convicted less than a month after another U.S. Sailor stationed in Sasebo was given a five-year jail term for attacking a woman and stealing her purse.

1999 GREEN "H" AWARD WINNER

By Vice Adm. Moore

I am pleased to announce the winners of the 1999 SURFPAC Force Commander annual Health Promotion Unit award (Green H) for the CY99 cycle.

The following is a listing of a few of this year's winners:

USS BONHOMME RICHARD (2)

USS DENVER (4)

USS PEARL HARBOR (3)

ASSAULT CRAFT UNIT FIVE (2)

Ships receiving this award are authorized to paint a Green "H" on their bridge wing.

The Green "H" shall be the same dimensions as the command excellence awards, 20 inches in length by 25 inches in height, no shadow. Subsequent award winners are authorized to paint a green hashmark beneath the Green "H".

My personal congratulations to all award winners. Our Sailors, the "human machinery of the fleet," are our Navy's most valuable assets. Their wellness is absolutely essential to our readiness and to the success of our mission. Thanks for taking magnificent care of them while teaching them healthy habits for life.

Well done, and keep charging!

SPORTS

HONDA CLASSIC LACKS PLAYERS

By Associated Press

With many players taking a break before next week's Bay Hill Invitational, the Honda Classic once again has failed to attract many of the top golfers. The event tees off today in Coral Springs, Fla., with only three of the world's top-ten players in the field. Among those who will take part are Doral Open winner Jim Furyk, Davis Love III and Vijay Singh.

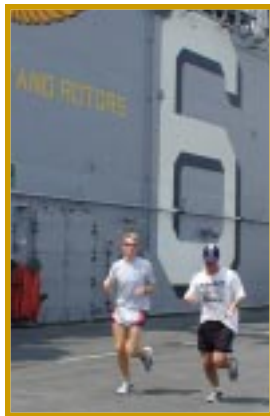
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS TIP OFF

By Associated Press

The Big Ten Tournament tips off in Chicago. Michigan plays Penn State, Iowa runs with Minnesota and Wisconsin meets Northwestern.

First-round games in the Big 12 tournament have Nebraska playing Baylor, Kansas against Kansas State, Colorado against Texas A&M and Missouri facing Texas Tech.

There are four first-round matchups in the SEC tournament at the Georgia Dome. South Carolina against Alabama, Mississippi State takes on Vanderbilt, Ole Miss runs with Florida and Georgia battles Arkansas.



The USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD 6) held a Strait of Malacca run on the flight deck as the ship progressed through the fourteen-hour transit. (Photo By PH3 Karri Williams.)

DEJA-VU FOR RAPTOR'S CARTER

By Associated Press

It was major deja-vu for Vince Carter. Exactly one week after his buzzer-beating three-pointer beat the Boston Celtics, the Toronto Raptors star did it again last night, clinching a 95-to-94 win over the hapless LA Clippers. Carter scored 14 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter.

NBA SCORES

Boston 112	Milwaukee 101
Philadelphia 107	Vancouver 90
Washington 118	NY Knicks 113
Orlando 103	Chicago 67
Detroit 130	Denver 116
New Jersey 115	Portland 103
Sacramento 105	Charlotte 92

NHL SCORES

Buffalo 2	Boston 1
Montreal 3	Pittsburgh 0
Carolina 4	Chicago 1
Philadelphia 3	Tampa Bay 2
Vancouver 3	Dallas 3
N Y Rangers 4	Anaheim 3
Detroit 1	San Jose 1

BURTON WINS RAINY LAS VEGAS 400

By Associated Press

Jeff Burton continues to rein in the rain. For the third time in less than a year, Burton has won a rain-shortened race, this time at Sunday's Las Vegas 400.

Burton took the lead from teammate Mark Martin nine laps before a second rain shower halted the race for good just over halfway through the race. Tony Stewart finished second, ahead of Martin, Bill Elliott and Winston Cup points leader Bobby Labonte.